

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Matti SALMI <i>et al.</i>	Confirmation No.:	3630
Application No.:	10/099,902	Examiner:	Asghar H Bilgrami
Filed:	March 13, 2002	Group Art Unit:	2443

For: REALIZATION OF PRESENCE MANAGEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APPEAL BRIEF

Dear Sir:

This Appeal Brief is submitted in support of the Notice of Appeal dated July 2, 2010.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Nokia Corporation, a corporation organized under the laws of Finland and having a place of business at Keilalahdentie 4, FIN-02150 Espoo, Finland. The above referenced patent application is assigned to Nokia Corporation.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellants are unaware of any related appeals and interferences.

III. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-61 are pending in this appeal, in which claims 1-4, 6, 9-16, 18, 20, 24, 28, 44 and 62-64 have earlier been canceled. No claim is allowed. This appeal is therefore taken from the final rejection of claims 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43 and 45-61 on April 2, 2010.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

The amendment to claims 22 and 42 filed November 30, 2009 has been entered, but the amendment to the specification filed on even date has not been entered.

V. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The claimed invention addresses problems associated with providing management of presence information as a stand-alone service, as well as part of an instant messaging service of a communication system.

Independent claim 22 recites:

22. A method comprising:

receiving a subscribe presence primitive from a client of requesting user for subscribing presence information of a requested user (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, lines 18-25; page 28, lines 12-20; Fig. 4D),

determining if a subscription to said presence information of the requested user has been pre-authorized by the requested user (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, lines 18-25; page 28, lines 12-20; Fig. 4D),

if the subscription has not been pre-authorized, requesting an authorization and receiving an authorize presence primitive from the requested user (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, line 18-page 11, line 5; page 27, line 15-page 36, line 25; Figs. 3A-C, 4A-D),

and if the subscription has been authorized or pre-authorized (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, line 18-page 11, line 5; page 27, line 15-page 36, line 25; Figs 3A-C, 4A-D),

providing a presence primitive including presence information of the requested user to the requesting user according to the subscription (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, line 18-page 11, line 5; page 27, line 15-page 36, line 25; Figs. 3A-C, 4A-D), wherein said subscription is valid for a period of time in which one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the requested user are pushed to said client of said requesting user, particularly after receiving an update presence primitive including one or more presence attribute values to be updated from said requested user (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, lines 26-30; page 7, line 5; page 8, line 27-page 29, line 3; page 31, lines 28-30; Figs. 3A-C, 4A-D), wherein the presence primitive comprises one or more information elements including a presence information element, said presence information element comprises one or more presence attributes, the values of the attributes indicating presence status of the requested user or a client of the requested user at the time the presence information is provided, said presence attributes are classifiable in any one or more of the following: client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user or client location, and client capabilities (See, e.g., Specification, page 22, lines 14-24; page 25, lines 4-18; page 26, lines 16-24; Figs. 1A, B, 2D), and wherein said values of the presence attributes have associated space and time information useable by a presence server to modify said presence attribute values or related presence attribute values in processing said presence primitive (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, lines 12-14; page 27, line 6-page 29, line 14; Figs 3A, B).

Independent claim 42 recites:

42. A server comprising:

- a data storage, configured to store presence information of a plurality of users of a presence information service (See, e.g., Specification, page 11, line 6-page 15, line 26; page 23, lines 16-24; page 28, lines 12-20; page 31, lines 16-18; Fig. 2C, storage 27a; Figs. 3C, 3D, 4C, 4D),
- a plurality of client interfaces, configured to communicate with said users through their respective clients (See, e.g., Specification, page 11, line 6-page 15, line 26; page 23, line 4-page 25, line 19; Figs. 2C, D), and
- a processor configured to manage the presence information service (See, e.g., Specification, page 11, line 6-page 15, line 26; page 30, line 26; page 31, lines 16-18; Fig. 3C, server 27), wherein said server is configured to:
 - receive a subscribe presence primitive from a client of a requesting user for subscribing presence information of a requested user (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, lines 18-25; page 11, line 6-page 15, line 26; page 28, lines 12-20; Fig. 4D),
 - determine if a subscription to said presence information of the requested user has been pre-authorized by the requested user (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, lines 18-25; page 11, line 6-page 15, line 26; page 28, lines 12-20; Fig. 4D),
 - if the subscription has not been pre-authorized, request an authorization and receive an authorize presence primitive from the requested user (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, line 18-page 15, line 26; page 27, line 15-page 36, line 25; Figs. 3A-C, 4A-D),
 - and if the subscription has been authorized or pre-authorized (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, line 18-page 15, line 26; page 27, line 15-page 36, line 25; Figs. 3A-C, 4A-D),

provide a presence primitive including presence information of the requested user to the requesting user according to the subscription (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, line 18-page 15, line 26; page 27, line 15-page 36, line 25; Figs. 3A-C, 4A-D),

wherein said subscription is valid for a period of time in which one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the requested user are pushed to said client of said requesting user, particularly after receiving an update presence primitive including one or more presence attribute values to be updated (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, lines 26-30; page 7, line 5; page 8, line 27-page 29, line 3; page 31, lines 28-30; Figs. 3A-C, 4A-D),

wherein the presence primitive comprises one or more information elements including a presence information element, said presence information element comprises one or more presence attributes, the values of the attributes indicating presence status of the requested user or a client of the requested user at the time the presence information is provided, said presence attributes are classifiable in any one or more of the following: client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user or client location, and client capabilities (See, e.g., Specification, page 22, lines 14-24; page 25, lines 4-18; page 26, lines 16-24; Figs. 1A, B, 2D),

and wherein said values of the presence attributes have associated space and time information useable by the server to modify said presence attribute values or related presence attribute values in processing said presence primitive (See, e.g., Specification, page 6, lines 12-14; page 11, line 6-page 15, line 26; page 27, line 6-page 29, line 14; Figs 3A, B).

VI. GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Claims 22 and 42 were rejected under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 for being based on an inadequate written description.

Claims 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43, and 45-61 were rejected for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on *Desai et al.* (US 6,820,204) in view of *Eftis et al.* (US 7,171,973) and *Aravamudan et al.* (US 6,301,609).

Claims 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43, and 45-61 were further rejected for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on *Desai et al.* (US 6,820,204) in view of *Tornabene et al.* (US 2002/0023132).

VII. ARGUMENT

A. CLAIMS 22 AND 42 ARE NOT BASED ON AN INADEQUATE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION BECAUSE THERE IS ADEQUATE SUPPORT FOR “REQUESTED PRESENCE INFORMATION OF THE REQUESTED USER ARE PUSHED TO SAID CLIENT.”

The Examiner asserted that there is inadequate support for the amendment to claims 22 and 42 regarding “...requested presence information of the requested user are **pushed** to said client....”

Appellants acknowledge that the explicit term “pushed” was not employed in the specification of the instant application, as filed. However, the inquiry to be made regarding a rejection under the written description clause of 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, pertains to whether the disclosure (specification, drawings, claims) as originally filed reasonably conveys to the journeyman practitioner in the art that the inventor had possession at that time of that which he now claims. *In re Wertheim*, 541 F.2d 257, 191 USPQ 90, 98 (CCPA 1976). **Literal**

support of the disclosure for the terms of the claims challenged by the examiner is not necessary in order to show such possession. *In re Wright*, 866 F.2d 422, 425, 9 USPQ2d 1649, 1651 (Fed. Cir. 1989); *In re Kaslow*, 707 F.2d 1366, 1375, 217 USPQ 1089, 1096 (Fed. Cir. 1983); *In re Herschler*, 591 F.2d 693, 700-701, 200 USPQ 711, 717 (CCPA 1979); *In re Lukach*, 442 F.2d 967, 969, 169 USPQ 795, 796 (CCPA 1971).

When disclosing the particulars of a “Subscribed Presence” at the bottom of page 31 of the specification, with regard to Fig. 4A, it is stated that the “authorization may also be done **autonomously**...” Autonomously means done without further request, i.e., automatically, or “pushed.” At lines 28-30 of page 31, it is stated that “When the subscription to presence information is complete, the requesting user will receive 88 new presence information initially **and always** 90 when the other party updates its presence information” -- i.e., the fact that the new presence information is **always** received **whenever another party updates** its presence information suggests that the information is “pushed” to the client of the requesting user whenever there is an update by the other party or parties. Also, the description of “on-going responses” at lines 26-30 of page 6, and line 5 of page 7, is suggestive of a “push” operation in order to feed the presence information in an on-going manner.

It is noted that the record shows that in presenting the argument at page 19 of the response of November 30, 2010, Appellants stated, “The fact that the new presence information is **always** received suggests that the information is pulled to the client of the requesting user.” It was intended to specify that the information is “pushed” to the client of the requesting user. This should have been clear from the disclosure of “always” receiving and “on-going responses.” However, even if, in spite of Appellants’ argument, the Honorable Board finds that “always” receiving and “on-going responses” can refer to either a “push” of information to a client or a

“pull” of information by the client, there is still support for one or the other and the instant claimed subject matter now merely restricts the operation to one of these two alternatives, viz., to only a “push” operation.

Accordingly, the Examiner has failed to present a reasonable rationale for questioning the adequacy of the written description. Therefore, there is no factual or legal basis for rejecting claims 22 and 42 under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112; hence, reversal of this rejection by the Honorable Board is respectfully solicited.

B. CLAIMS 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43, AND 45-61 ARE NOT RENDERED OBVIOUS BY *DESAI ET AL.*, *EFTIS ET AL.*, AND *ARAVAMUDAN ET AL.* BECAUSE NONE OF THE APPLIED REFERENCES DISCLOSE OR SUGGEST THE PRESENCE PRIMITIVES BEING PUSHED TO THE CLIENT OF THE REQUESTING USER.

The initial burden of establishing a *prima facie* basis to deny patentability to a claimed invention under any statutory provision always rests upon the Examiner. *In re Mayne*, 104 F.3d 1339, 41 USPQ2d 1451 (Fed. Cir. 1997); *In re Deuel*, 51 F.3d 1552, 34 USPQ2d 1210 (Fed. Cir. 1995); *In re Bell*, 991 F.2d 781, 26 USPQ2d 1529 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Oetiker*, 977 F.2d 1443, 24 USPQ2d 1443 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In rejecting a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the Examiner is required to provide a factual basis to support the obviousness conclusion. *In re Warner*, 379 F.2d 1011, 154 USPQ 173 (CCPA 1967); *In re Lunsford*, 357 F.2d 385, 148 USPQ 721 (CCPA 1966); *In re Freed*, 425 F.2d 785, 165 USPQ 570 (CCPA 1970).

Independent claims 22 and 42, as amended, recite, *inter alia*, “wherein said subscription is valid for a period of time in which one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the requested user are **pushed** to said client of said requesting user.”

Not one of the references to *Desai et al.*, *Eftis et al.*, or *Aravamudan et al.*, or any combination thereof, discloses this feature. The Examiner referred to col. 13, lines 42-46, of *Desai et al.* for the feature of ““wherein said subscription is valid for a period of time in which one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the requested user are pushed to said client of said requesting user.” However, this cited portion of *Desai et al.* recites

...the registered user may select one or more user/data element pairs for which to deny access. It is further contemplated that access may automatically expire after the passing of a certain amount of time or a certain amount of accesses to the data element.

While this passage may be indicative of a subscription being valid for a period of time, it neither teaches nor suggests anything about “one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the requested user are **pushed** to said client of said requesting user.” *Desai et al.* teaches nothing relative to information “pushed” to a client. In fact, in *Desai et al.*, information is “pulled” and not “pushed.”

Desai et al. discloses an information exchange system that provides user profile data of a registered user to another user or third party on a user-by-user and element-by-element basis. The registered user may selectively grant access of the user profile to one or more third parties, with the system only permitting viewing of the selected elements in the user profile by the third parties in accordance with the permission granted. See the abstract of *Desai et al.*, for example.

Col. 4, lines 44-52 of *Desai et al.* disclose how the information exchange system operates to provide user profile data:

In operation, the registered user may access profile data located on any information exchange system or affiliated entity that is connected to the network, provided access has been granted to the registered user. The registered user logs onto either an affiliated entity or an information exchange system, preferably through a World Wide Web address. **When the registered user requests profile**

data, the profile data is automatically retrieved from the various locations and made available to the registered user.

Col. 5, lines 1-12, discloses:

In a preferred embodiment, intelligent synchronization software is loaded onto the network device of certain registered users. The intelligent synchronization software operates in the background to detect network activity, and then **automatically pulls newly updated information** from the information exchange system, such as new addresses, e-mail addresses and messages, meeting invitations, and new files stored on the information exchange system, onto the network device and updates any local databases with the new information.

Thus, it is clear that information is “pulled,” and not “pushed,” in *Desai et al.* Accordingly, since at least the claim feature of “wherein said subscription is valid for a period of time in which one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the requested user are **pushed** to said client of said requesting user” is not disclosed or suggested by any of the applied references, no *prima facie* case of obviousness has been established regarding the subject matter of claims 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43, and 45-61.

Therefore, reversal, by the Honorable Board, of the rejection of claims 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43, and 45-61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on the combination of *Desai et al.* in view of *Eftis et al.* and *Aravamudan et al.* is respectfully solicited.

C. CLAIMS 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43, AND 45-61 ARE NOT RENDERED OBVIOUS BY *DESAI ET AL.* AND *TORNABENE ET AL.* BECAUSE NEITHER OF THE APPLIED REFERENCES DISCLOSES OR SUGGESTS THE PRESENCE PRIMITIVES BEING PUSHED TO THE CLIENT OF THE REQUESTING USER AND, ADDITIONALLY, *TORNABENE ET AL.* DOES NOT CONSTITUTE VIABLE PRIOR ART.

Initially, the claims are allowable because, for the reasons *supra*, *Desai et al.* fails to disclose, “one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the

requested user are **pushed** to said client of said requesting user.” *Tornabene et al.* fails to cure this deficiency.

Moreover, even if the combination of references taught the instant claimed subject matter, which it does not, *Tornabene et al.* is not a viable reference because the publication date of February 21, 2002 is **after** the effective filing date of the instant application, viz., March 14, 2001. While *Tornabene et al.* relies on provisional application No. 60/189,973, having a filing date of March 17, 2000, *Tornabene et al.* cannot rely on the earlier date for certain disclosures allegedly teaching or suggesting instant claim features. For example, the Examiner relied on paragraphs [0063] and [0084] of *Tornabene et al.* for the features of “said presence attributes are classifiable in any or more of the following: client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user or client location” and “client capabilities,” respectively (See page 18 of the Final Office Action). However, as Appellants have continuously asserted throughout the prosecution of this application, paragraph [0063] of *Tornabene et al.* can only be partially traced back to page 13, lines 14-21 of the provisional application. Paragraph [0084] is absent from the provisional application. Therefore, paragraph [0084], upon which the Examiner relied, at least in part, for maintaining the instant rejection, is not available as prior art against the instant claims. In any event, paragraph [0084] does not disclose or suggest providing an information element comprising presence attributes indicating client capabilities.

The presence information of the instant claims is much more than merely an indication of whether a particular user is online or offline. Rather, the claimed subject matter, e.g., see independent claims 22 and 42, provides for a “presence **primitive**,” i.e., various attributes relating to the presence of a user or a client of the user. The presence attributes are classifiable in any one or more of the categories: client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user

or client location, and client capabilities. The values of the presence attributes have associated space and time information usable by a receiving entity to modify the presence values or related presence values of the user in processing the presence primitive. These claim features are not disclosed or suggested by the applied references or combination thereof.

The *Tornabene et al.* provisional application filing date of March 17, 2000 is not applicable to paragraph [0084] of the *Tornabene et al.* application publication (with filing date of February 21, 2002) because paragraph [0084] has no support in the provisional application.

Accordingly, since *Tornabene et al.* is not valid prior art and, even if it were valid prior art, it does not disclose the details of a presence primitive, as claimed, for the reasons *supra*, the *Desai et al./Tornabene et al.*, combination fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to the instant claimed subject matter.

Therefore, reversal, by the Honorable Board, of the rejection of claims 5, 7, 8, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29-43, and 45-61 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on the combination of *Desai et al.* and *Tornabene et al.* is respectfully solicited.

VIII. CONCLUSION AND PRAYER FOR RELIEF

For the foregoing reasons, Appellants request the Honorable Board to reverse each of the Examiner's rejections.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 504213 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully Submitted,

DITTHAVONG MORI & STEINER, P.C.

July 16, 2010
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IX. CLAIMS APPENDIX

1.-4. (Canceled)

5. The method of claim 22, wherein

a pre-authorization is an authorize presence primitive autonomously provided by an initiating user to authorize transfer of presence information of said initiating user to an authorized user, and the autonomously provided authorize presence primitive includes various information elements including an identifier identifying the user of the initiating client.

6. (Canceled)

7. The method of claim 31, wherein

the message primitive has various information elements including a message sending client identifier, a message sending user identifier, and a message content type identifier.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein

in response to the message primitive, a delivery primitive is provided to the message sending user, and

the delivery primitive has various information elements including a delivery status element.

9.-16. (Canceled)

17. The method of claim 22, wherein said presence attribute values are associated with corresponding presence attributes classified and typed according to a standard.

18. (Canceled)

19. The method of claim 22, wherein said method is performed in a presence information management system having at least one server able to communicate with a plurality of devices, wherein a communication protocol is used between the at least one server and the plurality of devices.

20. (Canceled)

21. The method of claim 22, wherein said space and time information has a validity attribute associated thereto.

22. A method comprising:

receiving a subscribe presence primitive from a client of requesting user for subscribing presence information of a requested user,

determining if a subscription to said presence information of the requested user has been pre-authorized by the requested user,

if the subscription has not been pre-authorized, requesting an authorization and receiving an authorize presence primitive from the requested user,

and if the subscription has been authorized or pre-authorized,

providing a presence primitive including presence information of the requested user to the requesting user according to the subscription,

wherein said subscription is valid for a period of time in which one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the requested user are pushed to said client of said requesting user, particularly after receiving an update presence primitive including one or more presence attribute values to be updated from said requested user,

wherein the presence primitive comprises one or more information elements including a presence information element, said presence information element comprises one or more presence attributes, the values of the attributes indicating presence status of the requested user or a client of the requested user at the time the presence information is provided, said presence attributes are classifiable in any one or more of the following: client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user or client location, and client capabilities, and wherein said values of the presence attributes have associated space and time information useable by a presence server to modify said presence attribute values or related presence attribute values in processing said presence primitive.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein said one or more information elements further include a message identifier, a transaction identifier, and an identification of the requested user and/or the requesting user.

24. (Canceled)

25. The method of claim 22, wherein said requesting authorization from a-the requested user is carried out by providing a request presence authorization primitive, said request presence authorization primitive comprises one or more information elements including a message identifier, an authorization request transaction identifier, a requesting user identifier and a list of presence attributes whose values are to be included in the presence primitive.

26. The method of claim 22, wherein said authorize presence primitive comprises one or more information elements including a message identifier, an transaction identifier, a requesting user identifier, and a list of presence attributes whose values are to be included in the presence primitive.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein said authorize presence primitive further comprises a group identifier if the authorization is related to a group.

28. (Canceled)

29. The method of claim 22, further comprising:

receiving a join group primitive from a joining member user joining a private user group, providing presence primitives indicative of presence information of member users of said private user group to said joining member user upon joining said private user group but not after departing, and providing a group left primitive indicative of a departing member user to remaining private user group member users upon receipt of a leave group primitive indicative of said departing member user.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the joining member user may join the group only if said join group primitive is preceded by an invite user primitive provided by an inviting user to said joining member user.

31. The method of claim 22, further comprising:

receiving a create group primitive from a member user creating a user group, said create group primitive having information elements indicative of identification of a client used by the member user creating the user group, identification of the member user creating the user group, and a list of other member users of the user group, providing a group information primitive to the other member users indicative of establishment of the user group and selected group information, and permitting member users of the user group to interchange message primitives.

32. The method of claim 31, further comprising:

receiving a get group information primitive from a requesting member user of the user group,
and
providing a group information primitive indicative of the selected group information to the
requesting member user.

33. The method of claim 31, further comprising:

receiving a modify group primitive from a requesting member user of the user group, and
providing a group information primitive indicative of modified group information of the user
group to the requesting member user.

34. The method of claim 31, further comprising:

receiving a delete group primitive from a requesting member user of the user group, and
providing a status primitive indicative of disestablishment of said user group to the member
users of the user group.

35. The method of claim 22, further comprising:

receiving a store content primitive from a storing user,
storing any content conveyed in a content information element of said store content primitive
along with or according to one or more information elements of said store content
primitive, said one or more information elements identifying a store transaction, a storing
user, a storing client used by said storing user, a group, properties of said content, and a
header of said content,

providing a content information primitive to member users in said group, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said content information primitive, said store transaction, and said header,

receiving a get content information primitive from a retrieving user in said group, said get content information primitive having information elements identifying said get content primitive, a retrieval transaction, the retrieving user, a retrieving client used by said retrieving user, and said group, and

providing a receive content primitive to said retrieving user. said receive content primitive having information elements identifying said receive content primitive, said retrieval transaction, said group, said content, said header of said content, and an information element containing content for sharing among member users of said group.

36. The method of claim 35, further comprising:

receiving a delete content primitive from a deleting user, said delete content primitive having information elements identifying said delete content primitive, a delete transaction, the deleting user, a deleting client used by said deleting user, said group, and content for deletion, and

deleting said content.

37. The method of claim 22, further comprising:

providing a content information primitive to a notified user, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said content information primitive, a store transaction, and a header,

receiving a get content information primitive from said notified user, said get content information primitive having information elements identifying said get content primitive, a retrieval transaction, and said notified user, and
providing a receive content primitive to said notified user, said receive content primitive having information elements identifying said receive content primitive, said retrieval transaction, said header, and an information element containing a content.

38. The method of claim 22, further comprising:

receiving a store shared content primitive from a storing user, said store shared content primitive comprising one or more information elements including an information element containing said shared content, and information elements identifying said store shared content primitive, a store transaction, the storing user and a header, and
storing said shared content in response to the store shared content primitive.

39. The method of claim 38, further comprising:

receiving a delete content primitive from a deleting user, said delete content primitive comprising one or more information elements identifying said delete content primitive, a delete transaction, the deleting user and a content for deletion, and
deleting said content in response to the delete content primitive.

40. The method of claim 22, further comprising an exception management method for use in exception handling of a transaction by a user or a server in responding to a request by said server or said user, respectively, said exception management method comprising:

providing a status primitive in said responding to said request for indicating success or failure of said transaction as well as further information contained in information elements of said status primitive, and receiving said status primitive in said requesting server or said requesting user for recognizing said indication of success or failure.

41. The method of claim 40, wherein said information elements include a message identifier, a transaction identifier, and a status value indicative of said success or failure.

42. A server comprising:

a data storage, configured to store presence information of a plurality of users of a presence information service,

a plurality of client interfaces, configured to communicate with said users through their respective clients, and

a processor configured to manage the presence information service, wherein said server is configured to:

receive a subscribe presence primitive from a client of a requesting user for subscribing presence information of a requested user,

determine if a subscription to said presence information of the requested user has been pre-authorized by the requested user,

if the subscription has not been pre-authorized, request an authorization and receive an authorize presence primitive from the requested user,

and if the subscription has been authorized or pre-authorized,

provide a presence primitive including presence information of the requested user to the requesting user according to the subscription,

wherein said subscription is valid for a period of time in which one or more presence primitives including requested presence information of the requested user are pushed to said client of said requesting user, particularly after receiving an update presence primitive including one or more presence attribute values to be updated,

wherein the presence primitive comprises one or more information elements including a presence information element, said presence information element comprises one or more presence attributes, the values of the attributes indicating presence status of the requested user or a client of the requested user at the time the presence information is provided, said presence attributes are classifiable in any one or more of the following: client reachability, user availability, user personal status, user or client location, and client capabilities,

and wherein said values of the presence attributes have associated space and time information useable by the server to modify said presence attribute values or related presence attribute values in processing said presence primitive.

43. The server of claim 42, wherein said one or more information elements further include a message identifier, a transaction identifier, and an identification of the requested user and/or the requesting user.

44. (Canceled)

45. The server of claim 42, wherein said server is further configured to request the authorization from a-the requested user by providing a request presence authorization primitive, said request presence authorization primitive comprises one or more information elements

including a message identifier, an authorization request transaction identifier, a requesting user identifier and a list of presence attributes whose values are to be included in the presence primitive.

46. The server of claim 42, wherein said authorize presence primitive comprises one or more information elements including a message identifier, an authorization request transaction identifier, a requesting user identifier, and a list of presence attributes whose values are to be included in the presence primitive.

47. The server of claim 46, wherein said authorize presence primitive further comprises a group identifier if the authorization is related to a group.

48. The server of claim 42, wherein a buddy list user maintains one or more buddy lists on the server for sending messages to one or more recipient users separately or to every user on a buddy list through the server, and wherein the recipient users are not necessarily aware of the buddy list and cannot refer to the buddy list with any replies they make, and said buddy list user maintaining one or more buddy lists on said server is able to access presence information of one or more users on the buddy list.

49. The server of claim 42, wherein the server is further configured to:
receive a join group primitive from a joining member user joining a private user group, and
provide presence primitives indicative of presence information of member users of said private user group to said joining member user upon joining said private user group but not after departing, and

provide a group left primitive indicative of a departing member user to remaining private user group member users upon receipt of a leave group primitive indicative of said departing member user.

50. The server of claim 49, wherein the joining member user may join the group only if said join group primitive is preceded by an invite user primitive provided by an inviting user to said joining member user.

51. The server of claim 42, wherein the server is further configured to:
receive a create group primitive from a member user creating a user group, said create group primitive having information elements indicative of identification of a client used by the member user creating the user group, identification of the member user creating the user group, and a list of other member users of the user group,
provide a group information primitive to the other member user indicative of establishment of the user group and selected group information, and
permit member users of the user group to interchange message primitives.

52. The server of claim 51, wherein the server is further configured to:
receive a get group information primitive from a requesting member user of the user group,
and
provide a group information primitive indicative of the selected group information to the requesting member user.

53. The server of claim 51, wherein the server is further configured to:
receive a modify group primitive from a requesting member user of the user group, and

provide a group information primitive indicative of modified group information of the user group to the requesting member user.

54. The server of claim 51, wherein the server is further configured to:

receive a delete group primitive from a requesting member user of the user group, and provide a status primitive indicative of disestablishment of said user group to the member users of said user group.

55. The server of claim 42, wherein the server is further configured to:

receive a store content primitive from a storing user, store any content conveyed in a content information element of said store content primitive along with or according to one or more information elements of said store content primitive, said one or more information elements identifying a store transaction, a storing user, a storing client used by said storing user, a group, properties of said content, and a header of said content, provide a content information primitive to member users in said group, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said content information primitive, said store transaction, and said header, receive a get content information primitive from a retrieving user in said group, said et content information primitive having information elements identifying said get content primitive, a retrieval transaction, the retrieving user, a retrieving client used by said retrieving user, and said group, and provide a receive content primitive to said retrieving user, said receive content primitive having information elements identifying said receive content primitive, said retrieval

transaction, said group, said content, said header of said content, and an information element containing content for sharing among said member users of said group.

56. The server of claim 55, further configured to:

receive a delete content primitive from a deleting user, said delete content primitive having information elements identifying said delete content primitive, a delete transaction, a deleting user, a deleting client used by said deleting user, said group, and content for deletion, and
delete said content.

57. The server of claim 42, further configured to:

provide a content information primitive to a notified user, said content information primitive having information elements identifying said content information primitive, a store transaction, and a header,
receive a get content information primitive from said notified user, said get content information primitive having information elements identifying said get content information primitive, a retrieval transaction, and said notified user, and
provide a receive content primitive to said notified user, said receive content primitive having information elements identifying said receive content primitive, said retrieval transaction, said header, and an information element containing a content.

58. The server of claim 42, wherein the server is further configured to:

receive a store shared content primitive from a storing user, said store shared content primitive comprising one or more information elements including an information element

containing said shared content, and information elements identifying said store shared content primitive, a store transaction, the storing user and a header, and store said shared content in response to the store shared content primitive.

59. The server of claim 58, wherein the server is further configured to: receive a delete content primitive from a deleting user, said delete content primitive having information elements identifying said delete content primitive, a delete transaction, the deleting user and a content for deletion, and delete said content in response to said delete content primitive.

60. The server of claim 42, wherein the server is further configured to: carry out exception handling of a transaction by a user or the server in responding to a request by said server or said user, respectively, and provide a status primitive in said responding to said request for indicating success or failure of said transaction as well as further information contained in information elements of said status primitive, and wherein the client interfaces are further configured to receive said status primitive for recognizing said indication of success or failure.

61. (Original) The server of claim 60, wherein said information elements include a message identifier, a transaction identifier, and a status value indicative of said success or failure.

62.-64. (Canceled)

X. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

Appellants are unaware of any evidence that is required to be submitted in the present Evidence Appendix.

XI. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

Appellants are unaware of any related proceedings that are required to be submitted in the present Related Proceedings Appendix.